

**V. REMARKS**

The specification is objected to because of informalities. In part, the specification is amended as indicated above to obviate the objection. Applicant has carefully reviewed the Examiner's comments regarding paragraphs [0126], [0127] and [0128] and respectfully submits that the descriptions are correct. However, as noted in Replacement Sheet of drawing Fig. 1, minor errors are corrected in addition to "4A" and "4D" as pointed out by the Examiner. Furthermore, Figs. 3 and 11 are corrected in a similar manner as Fig. 1. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 14-16 and 28 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent No. 7,175,457. As indicated in the Office Action, a timely-filed Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application or claims in invention to be made as a result of activities undertaken with the scope of a joint research agreement.

As reflected on the front page of U.S. Patent No. 7,175,457, the assignee of record is J.S.T. Mfg. Co., Ltd. of Osaka, JP. The present application has been assigned to J.S.T. Mfg. Co., Ltd. of Osaka, JP, on January 20, 2006, as reflected on reel 017637, frame 0750.

A Terminal Disclaimer is filed herewith to obviate the rejection.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, withdrawn claims 26 and 27 depend from claim 14 and include all of the features of claim 14. Thus, claims 26 and 27 are allowable at least for the reason claim 14 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Additionally, it is respectfully submitted that claim 14 as indicated in the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement dated September 14, 2007, states that claim 14 appears generic. Since claim 14 is the original newly-added claim 14 presented in the First Preliminary Amendment dated March 17, 2006, it is respectfully submitted that claims 26 and 27 can be rejoined to the application. Applicant respectfully requests rejoiner of claims 26 and 27 to the application and respectfully requests withdrawal of the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement.

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the prior art of record. Therefore, this Amendment is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action. Further, Applicants assert that there are also reasons other than those set forth above why the pending claims are patentable. Applicants hereby reserve the right to set forth further arguments and remarks supporting the patentability of their claims, including the separate patentability of the dependent claims not explicitly addressed herein, in future papers.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

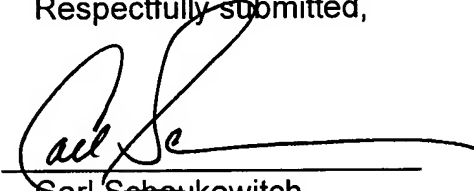
Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same,

the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 4, 2008

By:

  
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Enclosure(s):      Amendment Transmittal  
                         Terminal Disclaimer  
                         Replacement Sheets of drawing Figs. 1, 3 and 11

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